



*Hollister* **POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
"Service, Pride and Integrity"

## PRESS RELEASE

### HOLLISTER POLICE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES WeTIP'S "POLICE DEPARTMENT OF THE YEAR" AWARD

HOLLISTER, CALIFORNIA – April 28, 2009 – The Hollister Police Department has been named WeTIP's "Police Department of the Year" for 2008.

WeTIP is a national non-profit organization that takes anonymous crime tips from callers in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Founded in 1972, WeTIP has received over 480,000 tips. The lines are open 24 hours each day, every day of the year, including holidays. Rewards of up to \$1,000 are offered for tips leading to the arrest and conviction of crime suspects. As part of their efforts to combat a growing gang problem, the Hollister Police Department and the San Benito County Sheriff's Office joined WeTIP in October 2008.

The Hollister Police Department was nominated for the "Police Department of the Year" award because of its willingness to fund participation in WeTIP not only for the city, but also for all of San Benito County. It was the first time that WeTIP staff could recall a city funding participation for an entire county. Hollister City Manager Clint Quilter and the Hollister City Council were in full support of the effort.

Hollister Police Chief Jeff Miller accepted the award on behalf of the Police Department at WeTIP's National Conference held in Riverside on April 23-24.

"This is another example of how the City of Hollister and the County of San Benito are working together to address the gang problem," says Chief Miller. Hollister and San Benito County, along with the Hollister School District and the County Office of Education, are also working together to fund a new Gang Prevention Coordinator position.

*People with information about any criminal activity may report that information anonymously by calling 1-800-78-CRIME.*

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